

PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD'S DECISION

APPELLANT: Sebastian Siethoff
DOCKET NO.: 03-27270.001-R-1
PARCEL NO.: 13-09-207-004-0000

The parties of record before the Property Tax Appeal Board are Sebastian Siethoff, the appellant, by attorney Rusty A. Payton of the Law Offices of Rusty A. Payton, P.C., Chicago, Illinois; and the Cook County Board of Review.

The subject property consists of a 63-year old, two-story frame dwelling containing 1,289 square feet of living area with a slab foundation and a one-car garage.

The appellant submitted evidence before the Property Tax Appeal Board claiming unequal treatment in the assessment process as the basis of the appeal. In support of the equity argument, the appellant submitted a grid analysis detailing four suggested comparable properties. On the appellant's map, the comparables are located in close proximity of the subject. According to the appellant's grid analysis, the comparables are two-story frame dwellings that are 63 to 105 years old. None of the comparables has a basement. Information on garages was not disclosed. The comparables contain 1,392 to 1,598 square feet of living area and have improvement assessments of \$17.62 to \$18.20 per square foot. The subject property has an improvement assessment of \$20.43 per square foot. Based on this evidence, the appellant requested a reduction in the subject's improvement assessment.

The board of review submitted its "Board of Review Notes on Appeal" wherein the subject's assessment was disclosed. In support of the subject's assessment, the board of review offered property characteristic sheets and a spreadsheet detailing four suggested comparable properties that are located on the same block or one to two blocks from the subject. The comparable properties are two-story masonry dwellings that are 54 to 65 years old. Two comparables have full, finished basements; one

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Based on the facts and exhibits presented, the Property Tax Appeal Board hereby finds a reduction in the assessment of the property as established by the Cook County Board of Review is warranted. The correct assessed valuation of the property is:

LAND:	\$	4,636
IMPR.:	\$	23,047
TOTAL:	\$	27,683

Subject only to the State multiplier as applicable.

PTAB/BRW

has a partial, finished basement; and one has a full, unfinished basement. Two comparables have central air conditioning, and three comparables have a fireplace and a garage, either one and one-half car or two-car. The dwellings have living areas that contain 1,176 to 1,484 square feet and improvement assessments of \$21.32 to \$21.63 per square foot. Based on this evidence, the board of review requested confirmation of the subject's assessment.

After reviewing the record and considering the evidence, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the parties and the subject matter of this appeal. The Property Tax Appeal Board further finds that a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted. The appellant's argument was unequal treatment in the assessment process. The Illinois Supreme Court has held that taxpayers who object to an assessment on the basis of lack of uniformity bear the burden of proving the disparity of assessment valuations by clear and convincing evidence. Kankakee County Board of Review v. Property Tax Appeal Board, 131 Ill.2d 1 (1989). The evidence must demonstrate a consistent pattern of assessment inequities within the assessment jurisdiction. After an analysis of the assessment data, the Board finds the appellant has overcome this burden.

Both parties presented assessment data on a total of eight equity comparables. The appellant's comparable three differed substantially in age from the subject and received reduced weight in the Board's analysis. The board of review's comparables differed significantly in foundation and exterior construction from the subject and also received reduced weight. Although somewhat larger than the subject, the appellant's comparables one, two, and four were the most similar to the subject in most physical characteristics. These comparables had improvement assessment of \$17.62 to \$18.20 per square foot, and the subject's improvement assessment of \$20.43 per square foot falls well above the level established by these comparables. After considering adjustments and the differences in both parties' suggested comparables when compared to the subject property, the Board finds the subject's per square foot improvement assessment is not supported by the most comparable properties contained in the record and a reduction in the subject's assessment is warranted.

As a result of this analysis, the Property Tax Appeal Board finds the appellant has adequately demonstrated that the subject dwelling was inequitably assessed by clear and convincing evidence and a reduction is warranted.

This is a final administrative decision of the Property Tax Appeal Board are subject to review in the Circuit Court or Appellate Court under the provisions of the Administrative Review Law (735 ILCS 5/3-101 et seq.) and section 16-195 of the Property Tax Code.



Chairman



Member



Member



Member



Member

DISSENTING: _____

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

As Clerk of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board and the keeper of the Records thereof, I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true, full and complete Final Administrative Decision of the Illinois Property Tax Appeal Board issued this date in the above entitled appeal, now of record in this said office.

Date: September 28, 2007



Clerk of the Property Tax Appeal Board

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Section 16-185 of the Property Tax Code provides in part:

"If the Property Tax Appeal Board renders a decision lowering the assessment of a particular parcel after the deadline for filing

complaints with the Board of Review or after adjournment of the session of the Board of Review at which assessments for the subsequent year are being considered, the taxpayer may, within 30 days after the date of written notice of the Property Tax Appeal Board's decision, appeal the assessment for the subsequent year directly to the Property Tax Appeal Board."

In order to comply with the above provision, YOU MUST FILE A PETITION AND EVIDENCE WITH THE PROPERTY TAX APPEAL BOARD WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE DATE OF THE ENCLOSED DECISION IN ORDER TO APPEAL THE ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPERTY FOR THE SUBSEQUENT YEAR.

Based upon the issuance of a lowered assessment by the Property Tax Appeal Board, the refund of paid property taxes is the responsibility of your County Treasurer. Please contact that office with any questions you may have regarding the refund of paid property taxes.